



THE CRAFTY ARTIST

Newsletter of the
Ballina Arts & Crafts Centre Inc.

AUGUST 2023

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The month of July has brought some cold but beautiful sunny days. Surely many of us have been able to make use of the light of these winter days to give us inspiration in our work and our creations.

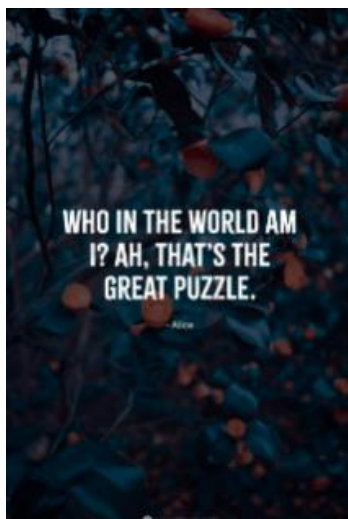
BACCI members were invited to enter their art and craft works in the Grace Cruice Exhibition at the Northern Rivers Community Gallery from Wednesday, 28 June to Sunday, 20 August.

The team at the gallery did a very professional job, beautifully using the available space in that room. There has been much positive feedback with many agreeing that it was one of the best Grace Cruice exhibitions ever.

The opening night, on Thursday, 6 July, was a successful and well-attended event with many members of BACCI and of the public, as well as friends. The artists who were exhibiting their work in the other rooms of the gallery gave a presentation of their works and Imbi Davidson talked about the support of her team who have made the exhibition such a success.

Meanwhile several members have sold some of their art works with hopefully more being sold during the remaining month. Thank you to all who participated and helped and next year we hope to see more of you in the exhibition.

*Thank you
Françoise Sauvère*



nrcg Northern Rivers Community Gallery
& Ignite Studios

28 June - 20 August 2023

A showcase of the best works created by the
BACCI membership in the past 12 months

*The 12th Annual Grace
Cruice Memorial Exhibition*

BACCI



*Françoise Sauvère (left) and crowd
view (below) at the opening night
of The Grace Cruice Memorial
Exhibition at NRCG, Ballina*



WHATS COMING UP?

Monthly meeting:

Date: Monday, 14 August 2023
Time: 5.00pm for 5.30pm start
Show & Tell: Olga Sokhoshko (artist)
acrylic painter
Location: Boardroom
Cherry Street Sports Club
Cnr Cherry & Bentinck Streets
Ballina

LENNOX NEWS

A more recent Archibald Controversy.

I was very lucky to have lunch with Craig after he won the Archibald. A local radio station had a competition, the prize, a lunch for two at the Grafton Regional Gallery. A friend of mine won the prize and asked me to join her. It was a magical moment, he was a very gentle, interesting, and polite young man. I was so sad to read he had died from COVID complications.



Craig Ruddy with his popular but controversial Archibald Prize-winning portrait of David Gulpilil in 2004.

Ruddy's death follows the passing of the subject of his most famous artwork, *David Gulpilil: Two worlds*, in November aged 68.

The large-scale painting of the Aboriginal actor, who achieved global fame in movies including *Rabbit Proof Fence* and *The Tracker*, won both the Archibald Portrait Prize and People's Choice Award in Sydney and Melbourne in 2004.

But the striking portrait ended up the subject of a lengthy legal battle after another entrant, artist Tony Johansen, acted against the Art Gallery of NSW claiming his work was not eligible to win as it was "not a painting but a drawing".

The court heard that Ruddy, then 37, had used acrylic paint, charcoal (stick and powdered), pencil, Conte sticks, pastels, and varnish in his work, which took two weeks. NSW Supreme Court Justice John Hamilton dismissed the claim saying it was "impossible on any objective basis to exclude the portrait from the category of a work which has been 'painted'."

The justice also stated that the courts were not the place for these decisions to be made.

The right decision was made but it took the shine and enjoyment of the win.

Exhibitions around the area:

- The Lennox Lions Town and Gown Art Exhibition is on, 15, 16 and 17 September, I have put entry forms on the BACCI Facebook page.
- PAN - [Practising Artists Network](#) is having an exhibition at the [Kyogle Regional Gallery](#) "The Roxy" is a beautifully restored picture theatre and well worth the drive. Country drive, lunch and art, a perfect day. The exhibition is on from Saturday, 29 July to Friday, 25 August, open from 1pm to 3pm.
- [Lismore Encore Group Show](#) – Regional Pop-up from Thursday, 20 July to Saturday, 19 August ... is an exhibition of fictional futures for Lismore in which creative minds imagine new modes of occupation for the flood prone CBD. It provides ideas for Lismore by esteemed architects, as well as by Lismore-based artists who have embodied knowledge and experience of the flood.

Lesley Ryan

Young Archies 2023 – Winner: 5–8 year olds



Phoebe Raft – My Crown

ARTISTS PROFILE

Andrew Watson



Andrew Watson is an Australian born artist with Post Graduate studies in Fine Art from the Queensland College of Arts.

Andrew majored in painting with post-graduate studies in drawing and printmaking under the tutorship of Nora Anson. It was during these studies that Andrew produced a major volume of works including drawings and etchings inspired by the rainforests of Lamington National Park.

The artist's light filled studio is in Alstonville where he resides. His studio overlooks an eclectic garden that provides inspiration, an escape and calmness for the artist.

As part of a visit to Japan in early 2020, Andrew attended workshops in paper making and Gyotaku (fish printing). These workshops reignited the artist's passion for printmaking, taking inspiration from these workshops Andrew has developed a style of printmaking utilising flora as his subject matter.

The artist's work captures the uniqueness of individual plants while combining multiple layers into his hand-coloured finished works. His prints are almost exclusively on paper with more recent experimentation of works on canvas.

Andrew successfully exhibited as a young artist, chosen as a finalist in the Westfield Young Artists Award when at school. As a college student he exhibited at Brisbane Community Art Gallery and at the Queensland College of Art Gallery. He is a regular exhibitor at BACCI shows and the annual

Grace Cruice Memorial Exhibition held in the Northern Rivers Community Gallery.

The artist is represented in private collections in Australia, New Zealand, Japan, and the USA.

Andrew is happy to take commissions by negotiation.

Instagram : [awatson_art](https://www.instagram.com/awatson_art)

FROM THE EXHIBITIONS DESK

Nice to see a drop of rain to freshen things up. Thank you to those that came along to the launch of the latest round of exhibitions at the NRCG, there was a quite a good crowd. Hearing the other artists speak of their works was a fascinating insight into their world. Our President, Françoise spoke very well and I'm sure members of the public now know what BACCI is about.

The Grace Cruice Memorial Exhibition is well underway with about a month still to go. If you haven't been in yet, please visit and support the local arts scene. A quick visit yesterday to the gallery and I saw seven red dots.

Well done to:

- Eddie x 2 woodworks
- Sue Fraser x 2 ceramic pieces; and
- Andrew x 3 – 2 hanging works and 1 piece displayed on a plinth.

Still around 4 weeks so let's hope for more dots.

After reviewing the entry conditions and the brief for the NRCG Community Arts Fair, the Committee has decided not to enter as a group. Space limitations would make it nigh to impossible to select members works to display along with documentation required to submit were the main reasons for this decision. Should you wish to make an individual submission please visit the [NRCG](https://www.nrcg.com.au) website.

I hope you are all starting to think about our next group show in October. It will be here before we know it.

Hope to see you all at the August meeting.

Thanks
Andrew Watson
(and Mary Richards)

CREATIVE ARTISANS GALLERY NEWS

Featured artist(s) of the month

For the August newsletter, we have two featured artists – Rosemary Bambrook and Brad Mustow.

Brad's work is a fundraiser for '[Friends of the Koala](#)' with sales of photos exhibited going to them.

Rosemary Bambrook

Rosemary has lived in the Northern Rivers for over 20 years. This creative region has stimulated her to further her passion for pottery, she has been passionate about art for many years.

Prior to living in the Northern Rivers, Rosemary completed a Fine Arts degree at Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) where she majored in ceramics.

Rosemary was also a secondary school teacher, and in her role as Head of the Arts Faculty at a girls' college in Melbourne, she co-ordinated numerous exhibitions and events, organised artists in residence and worked with a Japanese museum co-ordinating children's art works. She has also been a contributor to various exhibitions, and had work exhibited at the National Gallery in Melbourne, smaller galleries around Melbourne and the Murwillumbah "Mud and Art Trails."

Currently a member of the Murwillumbah Potters' group and for several years and was a volunteer at the [Northern Regions Community Gallery](#).

She uses both wheel and hand building techniques to form practical kitchenware and has a passion for creating delicious food that looks and tastes great.

Rosemary's dishes are decorated with vibrant colours using interesting patterns and designs taken from nature – these are always changing as new ideas are prolific.



Brad Mustow

In 1973 my mother bought me my first camera to take to [Taronga Park Zoo](#) and I've been taking wildlife photos ever since.

In 2019 I came across a mother and baby Koala in my street that I followed for 6 months which led me to volunteer at [Friends of the Koala](#) taking photographs of sick Koalas from arrival till their release.

In my 4 years there I have photographed over 400 koalas on their journey back to the wild.



***Cheers
Pauline Rutten***

If someone tells you that you have enough art supplies and you don't need anymore, stop talking to them. You don't need that kind of negativity in your life.

Ballina Wave Magazine **re 'Artist of the Month'**

Ballina Wave have kindly agreed to give a monthly space to a BACCI member, titled 'Artist of the Month.'

Details needed for article are:

- First come first served!
- 200 words about you and your work (it would also be great if you could mention BACCI)
- 2 x JPEG photos (these can be of you and your work or just your work)
- email your pictures and your Ballina Wave artist profile to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com), as a WORD DOCUMENT please, **not** a PDF by the 1st of the month.
- if you don't know how to do the above, a family member could help you
- also please email to Maria (mariaheaton@hotmail.com) as she will post this on BACCI's [Facebook](#) page
- email to Andrew Watson (bacciexhibitions@gmail.com), he will update our artists profile book which is on display at our exhibitions
- to take advantage of this opportunity you need to email something to Rosie (ballinabacci@gmail.com), please!

Do you have anything to share, (eg art info, travel adventures and/or photos)?

It would be great to feature one of your stories, and pictures, in a 2023 newsletter.

Please contact Andrew or Rosie about your story – please email your story and photos, (remember to include your name) to:

The Secretary
BACCI
PO Box 111
Ballina NSW 2478
E ballinaartsandcraftscentre@gmail.com

Also, any correspondence relating to BACCI exhibitions, etc, please use bacciexhibitions@gmail.com



